Amendment of Coastal regulatory zone notification

3386. SHRI CO. POULOSE: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to amend the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 2001;

(b) if so, the salient features of the amendment; and

(c) how far the proposed amendments would safeguard the interests of the coastal people?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. B A ALU): (a) and (b) A draft notification to amend the Coastal Regulation Zone (CRZ) Notification, 1991 has been issued *vide* S.O. 51(E) dated 11th January, 2002, inviting comments/suggestions from all concerned within 60 days from the date of the notification. In the draft notification, *inter alia,* it has been proposed to — (i) permit construction of certain essential infrastructure facilities required for local inhabitants in CRZ-III areas on a case by case basis, (ii) reduce the CRZ to 50 meters along tidal influenced water bodies in specified stretches for permitting dwelling units to local inhabitants subject to certain conditions, (iii) permit salt harvesting by solar evaporation of sea water in CRZ other than CRZ-l(i), (iv) permit setting up of non-polluting industries in the field of information technology and other service industries in CRZ-III of notified Special Economic Zones; and (v) do away with 'No Development Zone' in CRZ-III of notified Ports and Special Economic Zones.

(c) The proposed amendment to permit construction of essential infrastructure facilities in CRZ- III would benefit the coastal people.

Derecognised Zoos in Karnataka

3387. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Zoos in Karnataka, derecognised by the Central Zoo Authority;

(b) whether Bannerghatta National Park has been identified as a rehabilitation centre, to house lions, tigers, etc., from other Zoos in that State; and

(c) if so, the amount released by the Central Zoo Authority to Karnataka, for managing the rescue centres and for better management, during 2001-2002;

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Central Zoo Authority has not granted recognition to fourteen zoos in Karnataka.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) A total amount of Rs. 76.50 lakhs has been released by Central Zoo Authority during 2001-2002 to the State Government of Karnataka for construction and managing the rescue centre. Further, an amount of Rs. 97.35 lakhs has been released by the Authority for improvement of zoos in Karnataka.

Global wanning

3388. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether, according to the recent findings of scientists, world-wide global warming has started affecting plant and animal life across the planet, as published in Nature Journal;

(b) whether the World's mean temperature has increased by around 0.6 degrees Celsius during the last three decades, affecting adversely the flora and fauna from the Equator to the Poles; and

(c) to what extent India has evolved a greenhouse policy, to check emissions of gases like Carbon dioxide etc.?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) According to a recent article published in the journal 'Nature', there is evidence of impacts of climate change on plant and animal life. As per theThird Assessment Report of Inter Governmental Panel on Climate Change, the global mean surface temperature has increased 0.6 ±0.2°C over the 20th century.

(c) Several policy initiatives have been taken by the Government in energy and transportation sectors to check emissions of gases like Carbon dioxide etc. The initiatives, among others, include improvement of the efficiency of conventional energy generation and use, development of major renewable energy programmes, promotion of clean coal and biomass energy technologies, conservation of forests, upgradation of automobile technology and improvement of fuel quality.